



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance
600 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111
www.mass.gov/dma

Eligibility Operations Memo 03-06
April 15, 2003

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Russ Kulp, Assistant Commissioner, Member Services

RE: **Medex Premium Rate Increase**

Introduction

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts has received approval from the Division of Insurance to increase premium rates for all of its nongroup Medex plans: Medex Gold, Medex Silver, Medex Standard, Medex Basic, Medex Bronze, and Medex Core, effective March 1, 2003.

Rate Changes

The Medex plans, old quarterly rates, new quarterly rates, and new monthly premiums appear in the chart below. The **new monthly premium** is the amount allowed as a patient-paid amount (PPA) deduction. Fees for special billing arrangements that cause a premium to exceed these amounts are not allowable PPA deductions.

Medex Plan	Old Quarterly Rate	New Quarterly Rate	New Monthly Premium
Gold	\$1,130.76	\$1,242.69	\$414.23
Silver	\$ 880.47	\$ 967.62	\$322.54
Standard	\$ 833.91	\$ 916.44	\$305.48
Basic	\$ 564.99	\$ 620.91	\$206.97
Bronze	\$ 371.46	\$ 372.24	\$124.08
Core	\$ 198.96	\$ 217.68	\$ 72.56

System Changes

Community MassHealth members with Medex coding were updated by the system with the new premium amounts. The Division did not recalculate their eligibility.

Long-term-care MassHealth members with Medex coding were also updated by the system with the new premium amounts. The Division recalculated their PPAs in April 2003, for PPA changes effective May 1, 2003.

PPA Notices

During the month of April 2003, the Division will mail system-generated notices containing information about the new PPAs to affected long-term-care members, conservators, and nursing facilities.

Reports

The system will issue the following two reports about the Medex premium rate increase.

- The first report will list updated long-term-care members with their old and new Medex premiums and old and new PPAs.
 - The second report will be an update-exception report, identifying members with Medex premiums on file that do not correspond to the Medex plan for which the member is coded.
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Questions

Questions about this memo should be directed to the MassHealth Policy Hotline through your enrollment center designee.
